

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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R 071205Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3831
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
AMEMBASSY DACCA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY KABUL
AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
AMCONSUL MADRAS
AMEBASSY MOSCOW
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGSC PEPR, IN, PK
SUBJECT: FURTHER ON INDO-PAK SUMMIT MEETING AT NAIROBI

REF: NEW DELHI 13404 (NOTAL)

1. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS JOINT SECRETARY
I.P. SINGH GAVE POLCOUNSELOR FOLLOWING RUNDOWN OF
MEETING WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NAIROBI ON AUGUST 31
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BETWEEN INDIAN PM DESAI AND PAK CHIEF MARTIAL LAW
ADMINISTRATOR ZIA-UL-HAQ.

2. ACCORDING TO SINGH, THE MEETING WAS HELD AT THE
INITIATIVE OF ZIA, WHO HAD SUGGESTED IT AFTER BOTH
LEADERS HAD ARRIVED IN NAIROBI. THE SESSION WAS
BASICALLY A GET-ACQUAINTED MEETING AND SINGH EXPRESSED

INDIAN SATISFACTION WITH IT. ACCORDING TO HIM, MORARJI CAME AWAY IMPRESSED WITH ZIA'S "SINCERITY". (TO POLCOUNSELOR'S COMMENT THAT THE TWO LEADERS WERE VERY DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES, SINGH REMARKED THAT DESAI AND ZIA WERE BOTH PROFOUNDLY RELIGIOUS MEN, AN ELEMENT HE THOUGHT MIGHT HAVE PLAYED A POSITIVE ROLE IN THE RELATIONSHIP.) BOTH DESAI AND ZIA AVOIDED INTRODUCING ANY SOUR NOTES INTO THIS INITIAL MEETING, AND SINGH STATED THAT THE KASHMIR ISSUE WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY RAISED.

3. BOTH LEADERS SPOKE OF THEIR INTEREST IN FURTHER IMPROVING RELATIONS, BUT ALSO POINTED OUT THE PROBLEMS THEY HAD WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE PUBLIC OPINIONS. DESAI RENEWED HIS INVITATION FOR ZIA TO VISIT INDIA, AND WAS TOLD BY THE CMLA THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT PROGRESS BE MADE AT SUCH A MEETING AND THAT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO ACCEPT. (SINGH INDICATED THAT THE INDIANS HAD EXPECTED THIS REPLY.)

4. ZIA ALSO REVIEWED ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS PAKS FACE. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, HE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN PROCURING INDIAN WHEAT SEED AND GOT FAVORABLE RESPONSE FROM DESAI. (DEAL FOR SALE OF 5,270 TONS OF CERTIFIED SEED, WITH POSSIBILITY OF SOME 1,000 TONS MORE, WAS CONCLUDED BY PAK AGRICULTURE MINISTER HERE ON SEPTEMBER 4.) ZIA ALSO REITERATED TO DESAI HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DESIRE TO HOLD GENERAL ELECTIONS AND DISCUSSED TIME-TABLE OF BHUTTO CASE AND DILEMMA IT OSED.

5. PAK POL COUNSELOR MUJAHID HUSSAIN TOLD POL COUNSELOR PAK EMBASSY HERE HAD NOT RECEIVED ACCOUNT OF MEETING. HE SAID MFA HAD TELETYPED PAK TIMES ARTICLE REPORTING ZIA'S PRESS INTERVIEW ON MEETING, AND EMBASSY WAS ASSUMING THAT THIS WAS AUTHORITATIVE ACCOUNT. GOHEEN

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